

REMARKS

1. Rejection of claims 1-3, 5, 6 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by DeJovine, U.S. Patent No. 4,144,166, hereafter "DeJovine" or "166".

The rejection of claims 1-3, 5-6, and 17 as anticipated by DeJovine has been maintained.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the claimed invention. Support for this amendment may be found on page 7, lines 18-24, and page 8, lines 1-9.

DeJovine discloses the controlled release of solid particles contained in a polymer composition or in a suspension. Although DeJovine discloses the use of certain antioxidants or basic salts in the polymer composition or suspension, DeJovine fails to disclose the use of particles in a housing, wherein the particles consist essentially of a beneficial additive that is at least one of an antioxidant, a basic salt, or a mixture thereof.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the invention of amended independent claim 1 is novel over the disclosures of DeJovine. In as much as dependent claims 2-3, 5-6, and 17 incorporate the limitations of amended claim 1, they are likewise believed to be novel over DeJovine.

New claim 18 is novel over DeJovine because DeJovine fails to disclose a chemically active filter member comprised of a plurality of particles that are retained in the oil filter wherein the particles comprise from 90 to 97% by weight of a beneficial additive that is at least one of an antioxidant, an anti-wear agent, a basic salt, or a mixture thereof, based on based on the total solid weight of the particles.

Entry of the amendments and new claim 18 is respectfully requested.

2. Rejection of claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeJovine, U.S. Patent No. 4,144,166, hereafter "DeJovine" or "166" in view of Bilski, U.S. Patent No. 5,725,031, hereafter "Bilski" or "031".

The rejection of claim 4 has been maintained. Reconsideration of claim 4 is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment to claim 1.

Bilski is relied upon by the PTO for the disclosure of an oil filter having a mechanically active filter member and a chemically active filter member disposed within the mechanically active filter element.

Applicants must respectfully disagree. Bilski does not rectify the above noted deficiencies of DeJovine. That is, Bilski does not teach the use of the particularly required particles of Applicants' claimed invention.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

3. Rejection of claims 7-10 and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeJovine, U.S. Patent No. 4,144,166, hereafter "DeJovine" or "166" in view of Brownawell, U.S. Patent No. 5,225,081, hereafter "Brownawell" or "081".

Brownawell is relied upon by the PTO for the disclosure of an oil filter having both a mechanically active filter member and a chemically active filter member, and the illustration of a filter housing and supplemental cartridge having the recited construction.

Applicants must respectfully disagree. Brownawell does not rectify the above noted deficiencies of DeJovine. That is, Brownawell does not teach the use of the particularly required particles of Applicants' claimed invention.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the Application and pending claims are patentable in view of the foregoing amendments and/or remarks. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. As always, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the Undersigned by telephone if direct conversation would be helpful.

Respectfully Submitted,



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